

**From:** Bradford West  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/2/02 1:53pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

The settlement is fair. It recognizes that Microsoft was wrong and it requires Microsoft to pay damages.

Microsoft's ability to add features to its products should not be restricted, and Microsoft should not be broken up into multiple operating units, unless financial market forces (unrelated to government intervention) so dictate. The quality of the product and its ability to multitask and integrate with other products should be dictated by the consumer and not by any government. I require a fully-integrated product to run my business. I believe that Microsoft products have enabled me to be more productive year over year, and my productivity increases as the functionality and integration of features increases. A government break-up or restriction on Microsoft's ability to provide better, more fully-integrated products would be harmful to me and to the productivity of the workforce in America and beyond.

Microsoft's products or marketing should not impede the ability of its competitors to innovate and provide consumers with quality choices. Additionally, Microsoft should provide enough information to competitors to allow competitors to make products that function within the Windows environment. To the extent Microsoft did not in the past comply with those requirements, the settlement fairly punishes Microsoft for its non-compliance. Microsoft competes fairly in the cases of which I am aware. I use several products that compete with Microsoft products, such as Quicken, which competes with Money, and I judge Microsoft against its competition in each purchase I make. The key is that I, not the government, chose the product I want to use.

Any government restriction on my choice, or my ability to choose as a result of a break-up of Microsoft or restriction on innovation, is wrong. Such a restriction is anti-capitalist, anti-free market, and anti-American.

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